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INNOVATE 2005

INNOVATE 2005 Overview

INNOVATE is a study conference for undergraduate and graduate technical students that examines the relationship between technology, globalization, and leadership in the contemporary marketplace. Student delegates to the 2005 conference will spend five days each in Singapore and Tokyo participating in meetings with key business, academic and government leaders and professional visits to companies (such as Micron, Toyota, NEC, NTT Docomo, Texas Instruments, et al.).

INNOVATE 2005 involves 54 students and 11 advisors from 12 different countries and 4 different continents, and the formal program promotes student interaction to take full advantage of the international spirit of the conference. Outside the conference program, the conversations that occur during dinner and sightseeing excursions are also opportunities for delegates to reflect on what they have learned and to challenge their thinking about their own cultures. This conference challenges tomorrow's technical leaders to grapple with issues of technology and globalization, not just in the abstract, but by experience.

Conference Details

Location

Singapore and Tokyo, Japan

Dates

March 4 – 13, 2005

Itinerary

- Singapore, Day 1 – The semiconductor technology sector and the role of government in industry.
- Singapore, Day 2 – Technopreneurship and the life sciences.
- Tokyo, Day 1 – Next generation automotive technology.
- Tokyo, Day 2 – The global consumer electronics industry and mobile communications culture.

For the full conference itinerary visit the [INNOVATE 2005](#) web site.

Communications

Visit the INNOVATE 2005 [SmartGroups](#) forum (conference delegates only).

Connexions Content

The following course in [Connexions](#) contains shared information for all of the delegates, including: information about the countries we are visiting, travel tips, educational content on leadership, and journaling activities.

How To Get the Most Out of Your Trip

How to Get the Most Out of Your Trip

Some hints for a successful and enjoyable INNOVATE conference:

- Complete all of the assigned readings before INNOVATE
- Research the companies/organizations that we will be visiting
- After reading the speakers bios and researching the companies, prepare questions for the speakers. Remember to think about what questions would be appropriate depending on the culture of the organization and country
- Expand your social networks – make sure you interact and mingle with everyone on INNOVATE
- Be mindful of social norms and dress appropriately
- Look for informal ways to talk with students from other countries
- Make sure you take advantage of the access you will have to the international leaders and speakers on this trip
- Rest up before the trip and maintain your health to be in the best condition possible
- Be culturally sensitive. Take time to learn more about protocol for Singapore and Japan
- Bring an open mind – remember that you will see things that are odd to you or out of your cultural norm. Don't react immediately, think first
- Don't forget your sense of adventure and humor
- Journal
- Make sure to fully invest yourself during the conference and take advantage of all of the opportunities that you have
- Enjoy!

Country Information

The following contains information about the countries we will visit during INNOVATE 2005: Singapore and Japan.

Singapore

Background: Singapore was founded as a British trading colony in 1819. It joined the Malaysian Federation in 1963 but separated two years later and became independent. It subsequently became one of the world's most prosperous countries with strong international trading links (its port is the world's busiest in terms of tonnage handled) and with per capita GDP equal to that of the leading nations of Western Europe.

Singapore, a highly developed and successful free market economy, enjoys a remarkably open and corruption-free environment, stable prices, and a high per capita GDP. The economy depends heavily on exports, particularly in electronics and manufacturing. It was hard hit in 2001-03 by the global recession and the slump in the technology sector. The government hopes to establish a new growth path that will be less vulnerable to the external business cycle but is unlikely to abandon efforts to establish Singapore as Southeast Asia's financial and high-tech hub. Fiscal stimulus, low interest rates, and global economic recovery should lead to much improved growth in 2004.

Population: 4,353,893 (July 2004 est.)

Per Capita GDP: \$23,700 (2003 est.)

Further Information: CIA World Fact Book entry for [Singapore](#)

Japan

Background: In 1603, a Tokugawa shogunate (military dictatorship) ushered in a long period of isolation from foreign influence in order to secure its power. For 250 years this policy enabled Japan to enjoy stability and a flowering of its indigenous culture. Following the Treaty of

Kanagawa with the United States in 1854, Japan opened its ports and began to intensively modernize and industrialize. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Japan became a regional power that was able to defeat the forces of both China and Russia. It occupied Korea, Formosa (Taiwan), and southern Sakhalin Island. In 1933 Manchuria was occupied and in 1937 a full-scale invasion of China was launched. Japan attacked US forces in 1941 - triggering America's entry into World War II - and soon occupied much of East and Southeast Asia. After its defeat in World War II, Japan recovered to become an economic power and a staunch ally of the US. While the emperor retains his throne as a symbol of national unity, actual power rests in networks of powerful politicians, bureaucrats, and business executives. The economy experienced a major slowdown starting in the 1990s following three decades of unprecedented growth.

Government-industry cooperation, a strong work ethic, mastery of high technology, and a comparatively small defense allocation (1% of GDP) helped Japan advance with extraordinary rapidity to the rank of second most technologically-powerful economy in the world after the US and third-largest economy after the US and China. One notable characteristic of the economy is the working together of manufacturers, suppliers, and distributors in closely-knit groups called keiretsu. A second basic feature has been the guarantee of lifetime employment for a substantial portion of the urban labor force. Both features are now eroding. Industry, the most important sector of the economy, is heavily dependent on imported raw materials and fuels. The much smaller agricultural sector is highly subsidized and protected, with crop yields among the highest in the world. Usually self-sufficient in rice, Japan must import about 50% of its requirements of other grain and fodder crops. Japan maintains one of the world's largest fishing fleets and accounts for nearly 15% of the global catch. For three decades overall real economic growth had been spectacular: a 10% average in the 1960s, a 5% average in the 1970s, and a 4% average in the 1980s. Growth slowed markedly in the 1990s, averaging just 1.7%, largely because of the after effects of overinvestment during the late 1980s and contractionary domestic policies intended to wring speculative excesses from the stock and real estate markets. Government efforts to revive economic growth have met with little success and were further hampered in 2000-2003 by the slowing of the US, European, and Asian economies.

Japan's huge government debt, which is approaching 150% of GDP, and the ageing of the population are two major long-run problems. Robotics constitutes a key long-term economic strength with Japan possessing 410,000 of the world's 720,000 "working robots." Internal conflict over the proper way to reform the ailing banking system continues.

Population: 127,333,002 (July 2004 est.)

Per Capita GDP: \$28,200 (2003 est.)

Further Information: CIA World Fact Book entry for [Japan](#)

Singapore Facts

Singapore Facts

Full Country Name

Republic of Singapore

History

The name Singapore is derived from the word “Singapura” or “Lion City” as legend has it that a Sumatran prince sighted a beast that looked like a lion when he first set foot on the island in the 14th century. In the year 1819, Sir Stamford Raffles established a British trading station on this island. Singapore gained its independence as a sovereign and democratic nation on 9 August 1965. It was admitted to both the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Nations in the same year.

Area

Singapore has a total land area of 692.7 sq km (267.45 sq mi), comprising one main island and a number of islets scattered off its northeast and southern coasts.

Climate

Singapore is an equatorial country with relatively uniform temperature, high humidity all year round and abundant rainfall particularly during the Northeast Monsoon from November to January. It has relatively high temperatures with a daily average of 26.7°C and a high daily relative humidity of approximately 84.4%.

Population

4,35 million (July 2004 est.)

People

Singapore's people are largely descendants of immigrants from the Malay Peninsula, China and the Indian sub-continent. The population is comprised of 76.7% Chinese, 13.9% Malay, 7.9% Indian and 1.5% others.

Language

There are 4 official languages - Malay, Chinese (Mandarin), Tamil and English. Malay is the national language and English is the language of administration as well as the medium of instruction in schools and other educational institutions. The National Anthem is sung in the Malay language.

Religion

31% Taoist, 28% Buddhist, 18% Muslim, 10% Christian, 4% Hindu

National Symbols



The lion
head is the
national
symbol of
courage,
strength
and
excellence

.



Vanda
Miss
Joaquim is
the
national
flower
which
epitomises
Singapore's
quest for
progress
and
excellence
in all
aspects of
life.



The colours of
the Singapore
flag represent
red for
brotherhood
and equality;
white for
purity and
virtue. The
crescent moon
represents a
young nation
on the rise.
The five stars
stand for
Singapore's
ideals of
democracy,
peace,
progress,
justice and
equality.

For more information on Singapore's national symbols, please visit
[Singapore Infomap](#).

Government

Singapore is a republic with a parliamentary system of government based on the Westminster model. The organs of state comprise:

The Executive: Head of State and Cabinet

- Head of State: President S R Nathan, elected on 1 Sep 1999 (The President is elected for a fixed term of 6 years.)
- Cabinet: Led by the Prime Minister, Mr Lee Hsien Loong (since 12 Aug 2004)

Parliament

Parliament is elected by general election every five years. The first sitting of Parliament was held on 8 Dec 1965. The first general election for Parliament was held on 13 Apr 1968. There are 23 registered political parties. The current Parliament, elected on 3 Nov 2001 has 82 People's Action Party (PAP) Members of Parliament (MPs), 2 Opposition MPs and 1 Non-Constituency MP. In addition there are 7 nominated MPs.

The Judiciary: The Supreme Court and the Subordinate Courts

The Judiciary administers the law independently of the Executive and this independence is safeguarded by the Constitution.

For more information, visit: SINGOV.

Education

General Literacy rates (15 years and over) (2002): 93.7%

Literacy in two or more languages: 56%

Economy

Singapore, a highly developed and successful free market economy, enjoys a remarkably open and corruption-free environment, stable prices, and a high per capita GDP. The economy depends heavily on exports, particularly in electronics and manufacturing.

- GDP (purchasing power parity): \$109.4 billion (2003)
- GDP – real growth rate: 1.1% (2003)
- GDP – per capita purchasing power parity: \$23,700 (2003)
- GDP - composition by sector: (2003)
 - Agriculture: negligible
 - Industry: 32.2%
 - Services: 67.8%

Major industries: Shipping, banking, tourism, electrical & electronics, chemicals, and oil refining.

Sectors	Amount S\$ (billions)
Total trade	432
Total imports	208
Total exports	224

Trade (2002)

Major trading partners: US, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Japan

Employment

Labour force: 2,128,500

Employed persons: 2,017,400 (Males: 1,137,100; Females: 880,300)

Unemployment rate: 4.4%

Central Provident Fund: A social security savings scheme in which all employees and their employers contribute a percentage of their salary. Employees below 55 years contribute 20% while employers contribute 13%. Employees 55 years and above contribute at lower rates. In addition to providing security for old age, this fund can also be used for healthcare, home ownership and asset enhancement.

There are 3 million CPF members and their CPF balance stood at S\$100.28 billion (as at 30 June 2003)

Wage policies: The National Wages Council made up of representatives from the government, employers groups & trade unions advises the government on wage policies, and issues guidelines in line with long-term economic objectives. There are 70 registered employees' trade unions and 3 employer unions and one federation of employee trade union, National Trade Union Congress (NTUC). NTUC works closely with the government and business sector to look after workers' interest.

Transportation

Port statistics (2002): Total no. of vessels calling at the Singapore port is 142,745

Airport statistics (up to 2002):

- Total no. of aircraft movements: 174,820
- Total passenger movements: 29 million

Total number of vehicles in Singapore (2002): 706,956 (of which 406,589 are cars and rental cars)

Forms of public transport: MRT, LRT, Bus, Taxi services

Communications

Forms of communications (June 2003):

- Total no. of mobile phone users: 3,336,400 (80.1%)
- Total no. of pager subscribers: 222,100 (5.3%)
- Residential telephone lines: 1,915,700 (45.9%)

Total no. of Internet dial-up subscribers: 2,025,700 (48.7%)

Mass Media

- No. of local newspaper: 10 dailies with an average combined circulation of about 1.5 million (as of Oct 2001)
- No. of foreign publications, journals & magazines: 5,500
- No. of TV broadcasters: 2 groups (MediaCorp, SPH MediaWorks)
- No. of radio broadcasters: 6 (MediaCorp Radio, UnionWorks, SAFRA Radio, National Arts Council, Redifussion and BBC World Service)
- No. of TV cable operator: 2 (Singapore Cable Vision, StarHub)
- No. of radio channels (domestic): 18
- No. of free terrestrial TV channels: 3
- Cable TV subscribership: 341,907 persons of 31.83% of all cabled homes (as at 31 Oct 2002)
- Internet dial-up penetration rate: 48.7% (as at June 2003)
- Cable modem subscribers: 93,967 (Those who subscribed to SCV MaxOnline service to access Internet) (as of 31 Oct 2002)
- ADSL subscribers: 108,600 (as at 31 Oct 2002)
- No. of broadband users: 34% or 950,000 Singapore residents, 10 years or above (Survey on Broadband Usage, 2001)

Festivals

As a melting pot of many cultures, Singapore enjoys many colourful festivals. The Chinese celebrate Chinese New Year, the Dragon Boat Festival and the Mid Autumn Festival with mouth-watering delicacies created just for those occasions. The Muslims look forward to Hari Raya Puasa & Hari Raya Haji and the Hindus have Thaipusam and Deepavali. These festivals are occasions for all Singaporeans to come together to share their culture and traditions - visitors are welcome to join us! To find out more about festivals in Singapore, please visit [Singapore Infomap](#).

Arts

Singapore is a City for the Arts. We have a burgeoning arts scene and there are drama, music and dance performances all year round at various locations, culminating in the Singapore Arts Festival in June. Catch some of our free road shows and performances at the local gardens and parks.

The National Arts Council, the national agency spearheading the development of the arts in Singapore, manages Kallang Theatre (1,744 seats), Victoria Theatre (904 seats) and the Drama Centre (326 seats). The other major arts venue is the Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay. Opened Oct 2002, the arts centre is managed by The Esplanade Co Ltd and comprises a 1,600-seat Concert Hall (with 200 additional seats in the Gallery), a 2,000-seat Theatre, a 250-seat Recital studio, a 220-seat Theatre Studio, a rehearsal studio, outdoor performing spaces and Esplanade mall.

There are currently 3 National Museums, namely the Singapore History Museum and the Singapore Art Museum and the Asian Civilisations Museum. The Singapore Philatelic Museum is a subsidiary museum. Other museums maintained by various private and para-governmental agencies include: Fort Siloso and Images of Singapore in Sentosa, The Battle Box at Fort Canning, Lee Kong Chian Art Museum and Ng Eng Teng Art gallery at the National University of Singapore, Changi Chapel & Museum, Fuk Tai Chi Museum at Telok Ayer Street, Sports museum, Sun Yat Sen Nanyang memorial Hall, Civil Defence Heritage Gallery, and Chinese Heritage Centre.

To find out more about Singapore arts performances and activities, please visit [Singapore Arts Festival](#).

Food Paradise

Singapore is indeed a gourmet's paradise, offering a cosmopolitan range of cuisines ranging from Mongolian to South African and Japanese to a host of European choices. Of course, you should not miss Singapore's famed local specialities, Chilli Crab and Hainanese Chicken Rice. You should also try Laksa (rice noodles in coconut curry gravy with shrimp, egg and chicken as garnishing) and Nasi Padang (rice with various spicy dishes). For casual dining, eat at a kopitiam, which is a traditional type of coffee shop serving a large variety of local food. For breakfast, order some Kaya (sweet coconut egg jam) on charcoal-toasted bread and enjoy with a cup of local coffee. Another great combination is roti prata (Indian pancake) and teh tarik ("pulled" tea). Find out more about these interesting culinary delights from [Unique Singapore](#).

Shopping Paradise

Besides being a food paradise, Singapore is also a shopper's paradise. Have fun buying everything from arts and crafts, antiques, gold-plated orchids, electronic goods, computer software to the hottest fashion! Check out the shopping list from [Planet Gypsy](#).

Places of Interest

There are many places of interest including Chinatown, Little India, Jurong Bird Park (with the world's largest Southeast Asian bird collection), the Night Safari, the Singapore Zoological Gardens and the Singapore Science Centre. Sentosa Island is a resort island, which is accessible by bus, cable car or ferry. It has a lot of attractions including Underwater World (Asia's

largest tropical oceanarium), and Volcano Land. For more information, please visit [OTAH](#).

Time

GMT/UTC+8

Electricity

220-240V, 50 Hz

Country Code

+65

Mobile Phone Network

GSM 900, GSM 1800

Weights & Measures

Metric with local variations

What to Pack

What to Bring

Some hints and tips for what to bring when you travel:

Clothing, etc...

- Flexible professional clothes
- Formal outfits for opening and closing dinners
- Casual clothes
- Clothes for warm, humid weather and colder weather
- Comfortable clothes (formal and casual)
- Lightweight jacket
- Hairdryer (and converters)
- Camera/film/batteries
- Travel books
- Alarm clock
- Sunscreen
- Bathing suit
- Medications in original bottles
- Small first-aid kit
- Glasses/Contact lenses
- Toiletries

Essentials & Documents

- Passport/Visa
- Plane itinerary
- Medical Insurance Card and Coverage Plan (please make sure to read this first)
- Student ID/ISIC card
- Photocopies of your passport, travel documents, traveler's checks, and credit cards packed in a different location from the actual documents

- Money belt/Neck wallet
- Money/Traveler's checks (we recommend approximately \$300 in cash/travelers checks)
- Credit Cards/ ATM Card
- Phone cards
- Electricity converter kit
- Phone numbers and addresses of a few close friends and relatives that you may want to call/send a postcard

What to Leave Behind

- Laptop (think twice if you'll need it)
- Electronic items
- Cell phones
- Anything of substantial value that might be stolen
- Too many clothes!
- Expensive jewelry
- Leave a **copy** of your itinerary, passport, travelers check numbers and credit card cancellation number with family or friends at home in case of an emergency.

General Overseas Travel Safety

Safety and Security Issues Abroad

It is important to think about your personal safety and security issues while you are traveling abroad.

Street Safety

While you are abroad, you will have to be particularly street savvy. Gender roles, traffic laws, and drinking laws may not be the same as in your home country. As a traveler, it is your responsibility to be observant and cautious.

In many places, pedestrians do not necessarily have the right of way. Traffic laws might not be obeyed. Use caution on busy city streets, and do not assume that any car, truck, bus, or scooter will stop for you.

Know where you are going when you leave. Just like in any big city, a foreigner holding a huge map could invite trouble. Take time to study a map before you go out, and get to know your city's layout and culture.

Observe local behaviors. Cues will be different than what you are used to. In particular, body language is not universal. Your actions may be interpreted very differently than you intended. For example, Americans often present conflicting body language to what they say, such as smiling while saying no. Be aware of your own mixed signals.

Remember that safety in numbers is a smart idea wherever you are.

Keeping Your Valuables Safe

Here are some tips to secure your valuables during travel:

- While you are traveling, you should always wear a money belt or pouch to keep your money, passport, traveler's checks, and other valuables safe from theft.
- Buy a padlock for your backpack.
- Don't carry everything in one place! You should organize your funds and essential documents into two separate packs. When in country, one of these packs should always be left at your residence as a back up.
- If you must carry a purse, use a shoulder strap and keep the purse in front of your body. Carry your wallet in an inside coat or front pant pocket.
- Don't leave your luggage or handbag unattended anywhere. Should you put a backpack down, place it on the floor between your legs and wrap a strap around a fixed object.

The Law

Foreign travelers abroad are subject solely to the laws of the country they are visiting. They are NOT protected by their home country laws. You are responsible for obeying all of the laws of the country you are in; INNOVATE cannot intervene if you are arrested or prosecuted for violation of local laws, including laws on drug use, currency exchange, and disturbances of the peace. What may seem to you like a harmless prank may have serious consequences. Do not assume that, as a foreigner or a student, you will be treated leniently; the opposite is often the case. Do not count on your home country Consulate or Embassy to assist you except in a superficial advisory capacity. Think before you act!

Drugs & Alcohol

Be aware of the drug and alcohol laws of your host country. Several countries have extremely strict drug laws; penalties can range from years in prison to death. Be aware that customs officials are extremely thorough in their inspections for smuggled drugs and are continuously increasing their inspection procedures. If any of your prescription drugs have even small

amounts of illegal substances as part of their composition, have your doctor write a note indicating why that drug is in your prescription. Even that small amount could get you arrested in another country.

Violence & Terrorism

While most countries in the world have less street crime and personal violence than is potentially present in urban and suburban America, public political demonstrations are not uncommon in some cities and countries abroad. Do NOT participate or go to observe these demonstrations as your hosts may not appreciate that you, a foreign visitor, are publicly opposing their political or social system.

Violence and terrorism are now clear realities of the twenty-first century, and are not likely to diminish significantly. Nevertheless, there are certain rather obvious precautions that students abroad can take:

- Do your homework, listen and heed the counsel you are given.
- Keep a low profile and try not to make yourself conspicuous by dress, speech, or behavior, in ways that might identify you as a target or uniquely foreign. This includes: wearing college or university insignia clothing or heavily patriotic American clothing, wearing baseball caps or U.S. sports teams' shirts or jackets.
- Do not draw attention to yourself either through expensive dress, personal accessories (cameras, radios, sunglasses, etc.) or careless behavior.
- Avoid crowds, protest groups, or other potentially volatile situations. Keep abreast of local news. Read local newspapers, magazines, etc. and speak with local officials to learn about any potential civil unrest. If there should be any political unrest, **do not get involved**.
- When in large cities and other popular tourist destinations, avoid or spend as little time as possible in potential target areas for terrorist activities, especially places frequented by Americans: bars, discos, and U.S. fast food restaurants; branches of American banks; American churches; and American consulates or embassies.

- Try not to engage in conversations about contentious political issues with host nationals.
- Be wary of unexpected packages and stay clear of unattended luggage or parcels in airports, train stations, or other areas of uncontrolled public access.
- Report to the responsible authority any suspicious persons loitering around residence or instructional facilities, or following you; keep your residence area locked; use common sense in divulging information to strangers about your study program and your fellow students.
- If you haven't already done so, please register with the nearest Embassy or Consulate of your home country. Additionally, if you travel to countries beyond your internship site and expect to be there for more than a week, register upon arrival at a consulate or embassy of your home country having jurisdiction over the location.
- Make sure that IAESTE or your host employer always knows where and how to contact you in an emergency (make sure that someone always knows where you are!).
- Develop a plan with your family for regular telephone or e-mail contact, so that in times of heightened political tension, you will be able to communicate with your parents directly about your safety.

Cultural Sensitivity

We all want to be culturally sensitive, to get along, to be respectful, to fit in, to not offend. In training, cultural sensitivity is emphasized and highly valued. It can be the doorway through which a college student studying or working abroad gains entry to and acceptance with the community abroad.

It is very important that the cultural sensitivity training provided never requires that you submit to behaviors that invade your personal boundaries and that feel unsafe or even uncomfortable to you. If it feels inappropriate or makes you uneasy, get yourself out of the situation. Never sacrifice yourself or your sense of safety for the sake of cultural sensitivity.

Traveling in Japan - Health and Safety

Health and Safety

Hygiene standards are high in Japan, and medical facilities (although expensive) are widely available. Probably the most important preventative measure is to make sure that you are healthy before you start traveling. Dental treatment is expensive as well, so it's a good idea to have a check-up before you leave. Make sure that you bring extra contact lenses or glasses as well as any medications you might need. Getting correct medications may be difficult - and illegal if you don't have your prescription handy (it's also a good idea to know the generic name of the drug as well as the brand name). However, medical treatment and drugs are of high quality. No immunizations or health certificates are necessary for Japan. Food is almost always safe to eat and you can drink tap water throughout Japan but should avoid drinking directly from streams or rivers. You should also avoid wading barefoot in rice paddies or stagnant water as there could be parasites living in the water.

Health Insurance

It's a good idea to take out a good travel insurance policy to protect you from theft, property loss or health problems. Due to the high cost of hospital treatment in Japan, you want to make sure that are covered before you arrive. If you're not sure where to look, ask your travel agent. Make sure you read through the policy and find out which one will work best for you. For example, some policies will not cover you if you're during activities such as scuba diving, cycling and even hiking. If your itinerary includes these things than you don't want to sign up for that policy. Other things to check for are: ambulances and emergency flights home, payment method (do they pay upfront or do you get reimbursed), and low or high medical expense options.

Reimbursement

Most insurers will not arrange on-the-spot payments in the event of a major expense or loss. You will usually be reimbursed only after going home. In cases when something has been lost or stolen you will have to get a report from the local police in order to make a claim. For medical problems you'll also need copies of the bills paid for treatment and medicines.

Medical Kit

A small medical kit can save you the problem of running around a foreign city and looking for items that are a lot easier to find at home. Things you might consider including in your kit are: band-aids/bandages, Aspirin or Advil, Antihistamines, Imodium or Lomotil for stomach problems, an antiseptic, re-hydration medicine in case of severe diarrhea, calamine lotion, a small set of scissors, lip balm, insect repellent and sunscreen.

Medical Assistance and Emergencies

The TIC has a list of English-speaking hospitals and doctors, although they are mainly in the larger cities only. The people at Japan Travel Phone may be able to help as well. If you are in a rural area you may want to contact the city or town hall's international affairs or tourism department for help. Red Cross (Ni-seki) hospitals often have English-speaking doctors available.

In case of an emergency, it's best to have a Japanese-speaking person call the emergency services in Japan. If that's not an option, call the Tokyo English Lifeline (TELL) at (03) 3403-7106 for emergency assistance in English. The Japan Helpline is another option and is available 24 hours a day. Their toll-free number is (0120) 461-997.

Traveling in Japan - Possible Risks

Risks & Dangers

Japan is an extremely safe country. Theft and crime in general are not common, and those who have spent a fair amount of time in the country can relate several instances when wallets, watches or other valuables have been promptly returned or at least left alone. That being said, carelessness is often the cause of problems, so you should always be careful while in crowded transit areas. If you do happen to lose something on a train or in an airport, check with the lost and found service at the appropriate office, and more likely than not it'll turn up. Because of the safety factor, Japan is a great place to travel with children. Just make sure you keep an eye on them, as it's also a very crowded country.

Natural Disasters

Earthquakes are a fact of life in this thermally active area. Nonetheless, although small tremors are fairly common, the chance of experiencing a large quake is extremely low. If there is an earthquake, head for a doorway or a place with supporting beams or pillars or even under a desk or table for protection. It's best to be outside, but stay clear of buildings, as falling debris can be dangerous. If you're enjoying yourself at one of Japan's beaches, be aware that lifeguards are often not present, and strong undertows and currents can be very dangerous. Always protect yourself from the sun as well.

Cultural Problems

The most common annoyance for travelers in Japan isn't eating with chopsticks (you'll get the hang of it); it's the funny holes in the ground known as Japanese toilets. Western toilets are available in modern buildings such as hotels and airports, and sometimes in train or bus stations. However, if you're staying in Japan, you are more than likely going to get to

experience the 'asian squatter'. Most modern buildings have western toilets nowadays, but public bathrooms and older buildings still use the traditional kind. The correct position is to face away from the door toward the hood of the toilet (this is the opposite of most other Asian countries). Toilet paper is not always provided so it's a good idea to carry your own tissue.

Tip: Make sure you take any valuables out of your pockets or you could be facing a VERY unpleasant retrieval process. Also remember that in homes and small businesses, a special pair of bathroom slippers is provided for you to change into while using the facilities, and change out of when you are finished.

Visitors to Japan who are expecting peaceful Zen gardens may be a bit surprised at the noise pollution that bombards you from every direction. This is mainly concentrated in the metropolitan areas, but earplugs or a walkman can help. The size of things in Japan can also be a minor nuisance for travelers as well. Even average-sized visitors must be aware of their head in Japanese houses, and long-legged foreigners will be forced to get creative in small seats and cramped toilets.

Wildlife

Japan's wildlife does not provide much of a danger to humans exploring the natural surroundings. Probably the most notorious inhabitant is the habu snake in Okinawa Prefecture. If you are bitten – don't panic, as anti-venoms are available. The best thing to do is to wrap the limb tightly, attach a splint to immobilize it and seek medical treatment. The other poisonous snake on the mainland is the mamushi but they are not much of a threat.

If you are hiking through the northern Alps or remote areas of Hokkaido you should be aware that there are bears. Brown bears, especially in Hokkaido can be very protective of their cubs. Although bear attacks are rare, you should particularly pay attention in autumn when they are rummaging for food before hibernating.

Other possible dangers are foxes that carry diseases, stinging insects for those with allergic reactions, and stinging jellyfish at certain times during the summer. In general, there is very little to worry about with regards to wild animals.

Traveling in Japan - Calling for Help

Calling for Help

In case of an emergency in Japan, being able to communicate with the emergency dispatcher can literally be a lifesaver.

The emergency operator staff, which can be reached by dialing 119, has English-speaking staff available. In addition, the Tokyo Metropolitan Health & Medical Information Center offers an emergency interpretation service with English-speaking doctors at (03) 5285-8185. Their website, himawari.tokyo-hpc.or.jp, contains an excellent, comprehensive "Guide to Emergency Medical Treatment in Tokyo".

Here's how to deal with emergency calls in Japan.

First Steps

- In case of emergency, dial 119 (may not work from cell phones);
- In case of fire, say: KAJI DESU;
- To call an ambulance, say: KYUU-KYUU DESU;
- Do not hang up until the dispatcher understands your address and telephone number;
- Send someone out to the nearest major intersection to meet the ambulance or fire truck.

What May Happen During Your Call

Dispatcher: SHOU BOU CHOU... KAJI DESU KA? KYUU KYUU DESU KA? (Fire department... Fire or ambulance?)

Caller: KYUU KYUU DESU. (Ambulance)

Dispatcher: DOU SHIMASHITA KA? (What happened?)

Caller: (see vocabulary below)

Telephone number is...	DENWA BANGO WA (number)... DESU.
My name is...	WATASHI NO NAMAЕ WA (name)... DESU.

Bleeding	SHUKKETSU DESU
Broken bone	KOSSETSU DESU
Burn	HIDOI YAKEDO DESU
Difficulty breathing	KOKYUU KONNAN DESU
Convulsions	KEIREN DESU
Chest pains	MUNE GA TAIHEN KURUSHII DESU
High fever	KOU NETSU DESU
Injury	KEGA DESU
Poison	DOKUBUTSU DESU
Poison gas	DOKU GASU DESU

Sick	BYOUKI DESU
Unconscious	ISHIKI FUMEI DESU

Giving Your Address

The emergency service people need to know how to locate you in order to help. The dispatcher may say JU-SHO WA? (or) NANI-KU, NANI-MACHI, NAN-BAN DESU KA?, asking "What is your address?"

For example, the address of the American Embassy in English is: 10-5 Akasaka 1-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo

In Japanese, this is reversed, and best understood, as follows: Tokyo-to, Minato-ku, Akasaka itt-chome juu no go.

Front	MAE
Behind	URA
Diagonally in Front	NANA ME MAE
Next To	TONARI
Intersection	KOOSATEN

Since many Japanese streets do not bear names and house/building numbers are not consecutive, it is very important that you learn how to give adequate directions to your residence in case you need to explain it to a dispatcher, usually guiding them by way of major landmarks.

One of the best tests to determine if you have the capability to guide someone to your residence is being able to order a taxicab, and not from a company which has your information already programmed into its computer.

Japanese neighbors are a great source of information - ask them to tell you, word by word, how they direct people to their residences. Practice these directions on a regular basis and keep a cheat sheet by your telephone for family, babysitters, or friends to use in case of need.

Assuming you are not calling from a cell phone, just stay on the line. Emergency operators at the fire department in most major urban centers have the ability to trace calls to your location.

Other Important Points

You can call an ambulance anytime and anywhere in Japan by simply dialing 119 (may not work from cell phones). Ambulances operate free while medical expenses are charged.

Ambulance personnel transfer the patient to the nearest, most suitable medical center depending on the symptoms and condition of the patient as well as on the situation and location. The patient may not therefore be taken to the hospital of his or her choice.

To call an ambulance from a public phone, no coins nor telephone cards are needed if the public phone has an emergency call button (exceptions include red and pink phones, which operate only with 10 yen coins). Pick up the receiver, press the red emergency call button and dial 119. Newer public phones do not have an emergency call button, but do allow you to call for help by simply dialing 119.

Traveling in Japan - Info for Singaporeans

Information for Singaporeans

Some useful information on the Singaporean embassy and consulates in Japan.

Embassy of the Republic of Singapore - Japan

Ambassador: Mr TAN Chin Tiong

Chancery: 5-12-3 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032, Japan

Telephone: 001-81-(3) 3586-9111, 001-81-(3) 3586-9112

Telefax: 001-81-(3) 3582-1085

Homepage: <http://www.mfa.gov.sg/tokyo>

Hours: Mon – Fri, 9.00 am to 12.30 pm, 1.30 pm to 5.30 pm;
Sat & Sun - Closed

Emergency Contact: 001-81-(90) 3208-4122

Postal Address: P. O. Box 32, Azabu Post Office, Tokyo 106-8691

Consulate-General of the Republic of Singapore – Japan (Osaka)

Vice-Consul: Mr YAP Meng Wah

Consulate-General: 14th Floor, Osaka Kokusai Building, 3-13
Azuchimachi 2-Chome, Chuo-ku, Osaka 541-0052, Japan

Telephone: 001-81-(6) 6261-5131, 6261-5132, Visa Enquiries: 001-81-(6)
6261-5564

Telefax: 001-81-(6) 6261-0338

Hours: Mon – Fri, 9.30 am to 6.30 pm; Sat & Sun – Closed

Consulate-General of the Republic of Singapore – Japan (Nagoya)

Honorary Consul-General: Mr Toshikage TANIDA

Consulate-General: Daiichifuji Building, 35-16 Daikan-cho, Higashi-ku,
Nagoya 461-8648, Japan

Telephone: 001-81-(52) 932-6393

Telefax: 001-81-(52) 932-6393

Riding the Shinkansen

Riding the Shinkansen (Bullet Train)

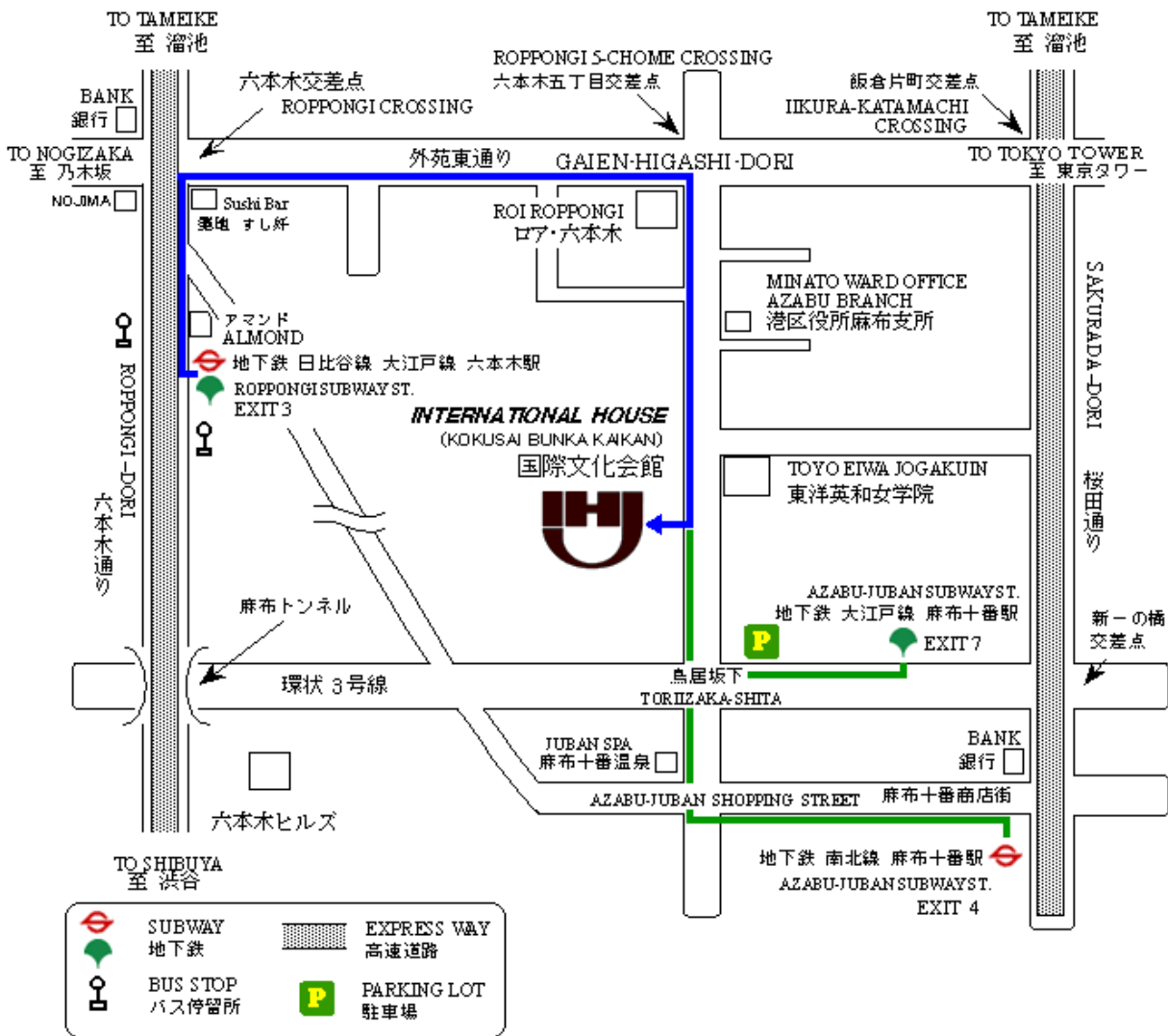
Here is everything you need to know about riding the shinkansen for our visit to Toyota on March 10, 2005. On this day, you will ride the shinkansen from Shinagawa station in Tokyo to Nagoya station.

Getting to Shinagawa Station (品川駅)

The group will go to Shinagawa station by JR and subway. The route taken will depend on if you are leaving from the International House or the Ibis Hotel. We will depart each location in groups of about 10 people for easier navigation of the Tokyo public transportation system.

Departure from the International House

- Using the map below, walk on foot from the International House to Azabu-Juban (麻布十番駅) subway station. This will take about 5 minutes.



1. Exit the International House, turn right at the street and go down the hill;
2. Cross through the 1st intersection;
3. Cross 2nd intersection and turn left;
4. Walk straight until you see the Namboku (南北線) subway line entrance (#4) on the right-hand side of the street.

- Take the Namboku subway line 3 stops in the direction of Meguro (目黒駅) station.
- At Meguro station, transfer to the JR Yamanote (山の手) line in the direction of Shinagawa (品川) and Tokyo (東京) stations.
- Take the JR Yamanote line 3 stops and exit at Shinagawa station.

Departure from the Ibis Hotel

- Using the map below, walk on foot from the Ibis Hotel to Roppongi (六本木駅) subway station. This will take about 5 minutes.



1. Exit the Ibis Hotel and turn right.
2. Turn right when you reach the expressway, but don't cross the street.
3. Walk straight until you see the Hibiya (日比谷線) line subway entrance (#4a) on the right-hand side of the street.
2. Take the Hibiya line 2 stops in the direction of Ebisu (恵比寿駅) station.

3. At Ebisu station, transfer to the JR Yamanote (山の手) line in the direction of Shinagawa (品川) and Tokyo (東京) stations.
4. Take the JR Yamanote line 4 stops and exit at Shinagawa station.

Transfer to the Shinkansen

At JR Shinagawa station, you will have to transfer from the JR lines to the shinkansen. Before entering the shinkansen system, the group will meet and the advisors will distribute the tickets. In the JR station, follow the signs to the Tokaido-Sanyo Shinkansen.



Stop when you reach the entrance gates to the shinkansen. You will be in a large atrium with a coffee shop and ticket counters. The group will meet here. Assemble into your small groups (A, B, C, etc...) for ticket distribution. Your advisor will give you your tickets, and you will receive 1 or 2 magnetic-backed tickets.

Boarding the Shinkansen

IMPORTANT: Stay with your small group when proceeding into the shinkansen system since the station will probably be very crowded.

1. To go through the ticket gate, insert your ticket into the machine. If you have 2 tickets, insert both in at the same time. **DON'T FORGET**

TO TAKE YOUR TICKETS AFTER YOU HAVE GONE THROUGH THE GATE. Keep your ticket to show to the conductor on the train.

2. This display just inside the ticket gates will tell you on which platform you will board the shinkansen. Proceed to that platform by taking the marked escalators.
3. Once on the platform, follow the group to the marked to the car in which you will be riding. Your ticket will give you this information, as well the row and seat in which you will be sitting. Compare your ticket to the one below. It will look similar. In this example, the rider is sitting in car 8, row 1, seat D (8 号車 1 番D席).



1. Your group will line up on the platform as the train is arriving. Be careful to stay with the group since the platform could be crowded. Once the train arrives, board the train and find your seat.

Exiting the Shinkansen

1. The train will stop at Shin-Yokohama and then Nagoya station. Exit the train at Nagoya and meet up with your group.
2. Proceed down the escalators to the main are of the station.
3. When leaving the shinkansen system, put your ticket (both tickets if you have 2) into the ticket machine as you exit. The machine will keep the ticket(s).

4. After exiting the station, the small groups will meet before boarding the bus to Toyota.

Returning to Tokyo

We will return to Tokyo in the same fashion, by splitting into small groups to board the train at Nagoya station. You will receive your tickets on the bus from Toyota. Once we reach Shinagawa station in the evening, you will be free and on your own for dinner.

Leadership

Introduction to Leadership

Leadership is an ambiguous term; it is defined differently depending on cultural beliefs, organizational culture, generations and personal beliefs. To become an effective and efficient leader, it is important to take all of this into consideration. To help understand leadership styles, you can put leaders on a continuum and look at their strengths and weaknesses. The best example of this would be George W. Bush and the Dalai Lama. Both leaders are thought to be extremely effective and efficient by many people in their country and from around the world (note this is just a comparison of different leadership styles) and to analyze their different leadership techniques and styles is fascinating. What kind of leader do you want to be?

It is important during your INNOVATE experience to think about the list of leadership skills/attributes and to fill out your personal [Leadership Worksheet](#). This is a work in progress and something we hope you continue to modify throughout your career and life to develop yourself into a global technical leader.

To begin the Leadership Module, please take time to write in your journal now about leadership. How do you define a leader? What leaders do you admire and why? How do you think leadership styles compare and contrast in Singapore and Japan?

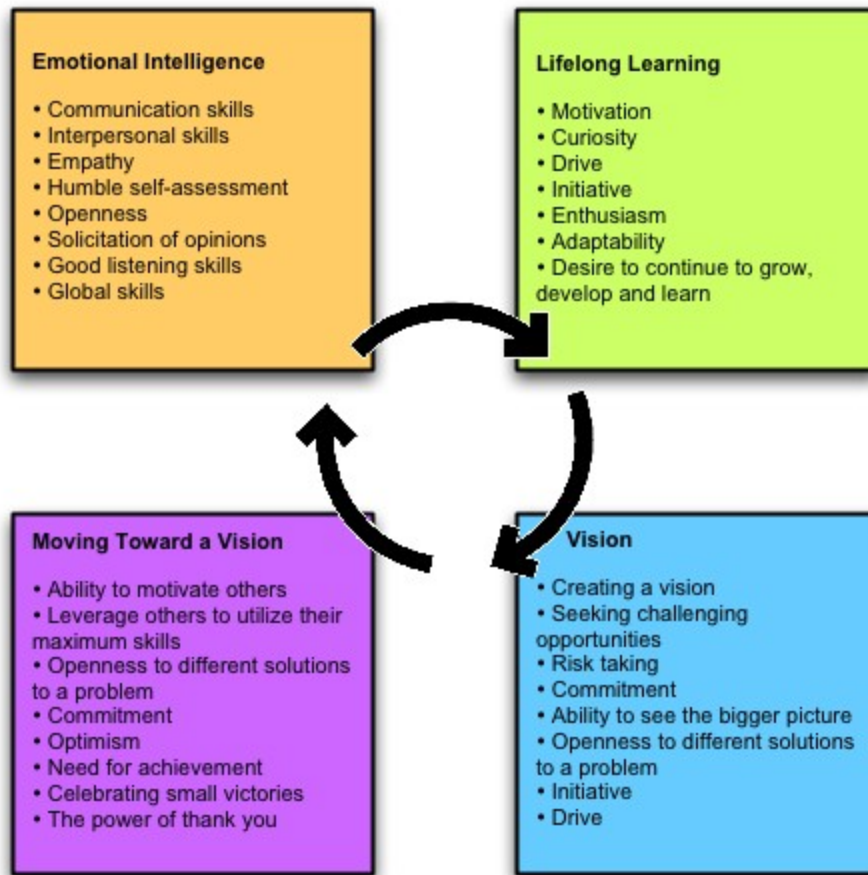
Enjoy this module!

List of Leadership Skills/Attributes

1. Life-long learning – the desire to continue learning throughout life
2. Emotional intelligence - a term that encompasses soft skills, focusing on communication and interpersonal skills
3. Competitive Drive – the desire to keep excelling and learning, mainly fueled by competition.
4. High energy level
5. Self-awareness

6. Self-regulation
7. Motivation
8. Empathy
9. Curiosity
10. Commitment
11. Ability to see the bigger picture
12. Ability to learn from one's failures
13. Leveraging others to work to their highest potential
14. Looking at various solutions to a problem
15. Working toward a larger vision based on shared values and goals
16. Social skills
17. Risk taker - the ability to take oneself out of comfort zones
18. Humble self-assessor - honest assessment of one's failures, and successes, but more importantly one's failures
19. Open to new ideas
20. Good listener
21. The ability to challenge the process
22. Inspire a shared vision
23. Enable others to act
24. Integrity - possessing ambition, competence and a moral compass
25. Engaging others by creating shared meaning - empathy, obsessive communication and the encouragement to dissent

Leadership Continuum



The Leadership Continuum

Recommended Leadership Readings

- Adler, Nancy J. 2002. *International Dimensions of Organizational Behavior*, 4th ed.
- Augustine, Norman J. *Augustine's Travels: A World-Class Leader Looks at Life Business, and What It Takes to Succeed at Both*.
- Bennis, Warren G. and Robert J. Thomas . 2002. *Geeks & Geezers: How Era, Values, and Defining Moments Shape Leaders*.
- Bennis, Warren G. and Burt Nanus. 1985. *Leaders: The Strategies for Taking Charge*.

- Fine, Charles H. 1999. *Clockspeed: Winning Industry Control in the Age of Temporary Advantage*.
- Gardner, Howard. 1995 . *Leading Minds*.
- Goleman, Daniel. 1998. *Working with Emotional Intelligence*.
- Handy, Charles. 1998. *Beyond Certainty: The Changing World of Organizations*.
- Hesselbein, Frances, Marshall Goldsmith and Richard Beckhard, Eds. 1997. *The Leader of the Future: New Visions, Strategies and Practices for the Next*.
- Katz, Ralph, Ed. 2003. *The Human Side of Managing Technological Innovation: A Collection of Readings*.
- Kotter, John P. 1996. *Leading Change*.
- Kotter, John P. 1998. *The Leadership Factor*.
- Kouzes, James M and Barry Z Posner. 1995 . *The Leadership Challenge: How to Keep Getting Extraordinary Things Done in Organizations*, 2nd ed.
- Moran, Robert T and Philip R. Harris. 1983. 1983. *Managing Cultural Synergy*, 3rd ed.
- Northouse, Peter G. 1997. *Leadership Theory and Practice*.
- Rhinesmith, Stephen H. 1992 . *A Manager's Guide to Globalization: Six Keys to Success in a Changing World*.
- Trompenaars, Fons and Charles Hampden Turner. 1997. *Riding the Waves of Culture*.
- Trompenaars, F. & Hampden-Turner, C. 2002. *21 Leaders for the 21st Century: How Innovative Leaders Manage in the Digital Age*.

Guidelines for Journaling

Guidelines for Journaling

All INNOVATE delegates are required to keep a journal before and during the conference. Keeping a journal is an important part of your experience, as well as a way to capture your experience on INNOVATE. The purpose of this exercise is to give you a place to fully reflect on your INNOVATE experience. Throughout the conference, we encourage you to take time to journal. Before the conference, we will post questions for you to journal on. We hope that the journal provides a venue for you to reflect on the many wonderful aspects of the conference, and as a memento from your international experience.

A Few Helpful Hints

Some hints for enhancing your journaling experience:

When to Start

Start journaling now! Write down some of your feelings before the trip – what do you expect, what are your preconceived ideas of Singapore, Japan and the INNOVATE group as a whole. Enjoy!

How Often, How Long and When

We urge you to write in your journal whenever inspiration hits you. The more you do, the more you'll benefit. Late evening is a good time, just before retiring or on the bus after a site visit. Some people prefer journaling early in the morning before they start their day. Block out at least fifteen minutes each time you write. You may also want to jot down an idea for journaling and come back later to write on it in greater depth.

Setting

It's best to have a quiet place where you can be alone with yourself and concentrate on journaling. Find a place that is free from loud noises, distractions and interruptions. Find the place that feels best for you, a place that's safe, quiet and conducive to taking little journeys inside.

Structure and Spontaneity

It's a good idea to put the date on first page of each journal entry. This is helpful when you read your journal after completion of the conference to put your thoughts into time perspectives.

Express yourself as openly as possible. Don't edit or revise what you write or draw. The important thing is to be as honest and spontaneous as possible. We will not collect, read, or be grading your journals. So reflect freely.

Honesty and Privacy

In order to be really honest with yourself, it is important that you keep your journal private. If you wish to share your journal, that is your choice. However, we would like you to use the journal as an area of completely open, honest reflection on your INNOVATE experience!

Pre-Trip Journaling Questions

Pre-Trip Journaling Questions

Answer the following questions **before** attending the INNOVATE 2005 conference:

1. What do you think Singapore will look like? Smell like? Feel like?
Describe what you think the culture will be like. What approach to leadership and innovation does Singapore take in your opinion?
2. What do you think Japan will be look like? Smell like? Feel like?
Describe what you think the culture will be like. What approach to leadership and innovation does Japan take in your opinion?
3. What are your expectations of the conference?
4. What are you most excited about?
5. What do you hope to learn?
6. What are you going to do with this knowledge when you return?

Journaling Questions

Journaling Questions

Answer the following questions *during* the INNOVATE 2005 conference:

Singapore

1. Reflect on the relationship between Singaporean government, businesses and educational system. Which of the before-mentioned organizations is the leading force in Singapore's new international initiatives? Examine the power structures through drawing a diagram of information and power flow between the three. How and where does technology enter this diagram (including how it effects power and information flow).
2. Where is the division between the Singaporean government and business? What are the benefits and weaknesses of this relationship? Compare and contrast to your home country.
3. What challenges do you think Singapore faces as a global technical leader? As a nation, what is it doing to overcome these challenges? Describe the cultural heterogeneous aspects of Singapore and your observations of how this affects work teams, managers, and leaders in Singapore.

Japan

1. What is the nature of the relationship between industry and academic research in Japan? How does this compare and contrast with what you learned about in Singapore? What is Japan's role in Asia in regards to research and development?
2. How does globalization affect leaders? What are some strengths and weaknesses you observed of working in a global organization?

Company Profile Template

Profile of (Company Name)

Write a brief paragraph here that briefly describes the company, its history, the sector in which it operates, the products it makes, etc... Good sources of information to use are the company website, [WetFeet](#), [Businessweek](#), and other financial web sites.

Company Details

Location

- List the headquarters;
- And any major branch offices;

Financial Facts

- Most recent revenues;
- Most recent profits;
- Historical growth in revenues and profits (most recent 3-5 years);
- How does the company compare to others in its sector?

Personnel

- How many employees does the company have?

Questions

Please research and discuss the following:

Competitiveness

How does the company compare to its main competitors? Consider both domestic and local markets.

Overcoming Obstacles

What obstacles does the company face in its sector, and does the company have any innovative approaches to overcoming them.

Leadership

Research and describe a time in which the company faced a major crisis that threatened its business. How did the company address and overcome this situation?